

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-7, 9-18 and 20-25.

Please add the following new claims:

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26. A method comprising:
monitoring computer usage of a computer user during a usage session;
recording information including hypertext links selected by the user during the
monitored session;
analyzing the recorded hypertext links to determine a user intent for the session;
and
generating a search engine query based on the determined intent.
27. The method of claim 26, wherein analyzing comprises parsing hypertext
links selected by the user into words and determining the user intent based on the parsed
words.
28. The method of claim 26, wherein determining the user's intent comprises
determining the user's intent based on the content of the hypertext links using heuristics.
29. The method of claim 26, wherein analyzing comprises applying the
hypertext links to keyword tables to identify words that may be indicative of the user
intent.
30. The method of claim 26, further comprising displaying a set of words
indicative of the determined user intent and a button for the user to click on to indicate a
desire to receive information regarding the displayed set of words.
31. The method of claim 26, further comprising displaying an icon for the user
to click on to start the usage session.

32. The method of claim 26, further comprising determining a shift in the user intent by comparing recorded information to stored category profiles.

33. The method of claim 26, wherein monitoring further comprises at least one of:

monitoring time spent at a network site;

monitoring network pages bookmarked by the user;

monitoring frequency that particular network pages are visited; and

monitoring the content of visited network pages, and

wherein analyzing comprises analyzing the recorded information and the hypertext links to determine a user intent for the session.

34. The method of claim 26, wherein generating the query is in response to a user action and is based on the content of an item or a document currently being displayed.

35. The method of claim 26, wherein generating a search engine query comprises constructing queries to perform searches using search engines on a plurality of web sites based on the user's intent, the method further comprising transmitting the queries to the plurality of web sites.

36. The method of claim 35, further comprising receiving search result documents from the web sites, the search result documents comprising a plurality of search result entries, filtering the search result entries based on the determined intent, and selecting a subset of the search result entries based on the filtering.

C' 37. A machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing instructions which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

monitoring computer usage of a computer user during a usage session;

recording information including hypertext links selected by the user during the monitored session;

analyzing the recorded hypertext links to determine a user intent for the session;

and

generating a search engine query based on the determined intent.

38. The medium of claim 37, wherein the instructions for analyzing comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising parsing hypertext links selected by the user into words and determining the user intent based on the parsed words.

39. The medium of claim 37, wherein the instructions for analyzing comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising applying the hypertext links to keyword tables to identify words that may be indicative of the user intent.

40. The medium of claim 37, further comprising instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising displaying a set of words indicative of the determined user intent and a button for the user to click on to indicate a desire to receive information regarding the displayed set of words.

41. The medium of claim 37, wherein the instructions for generating the query are executed in response to a user action and based on the content of an item or a document currently being displayed.

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42. The medium of claim 37, wherein the instructions for generating a search engine query comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising constructing queries to perform searches using search engines on a plurality of web sites based on the user's intent, and wherein the instructions further comprise instructions for transmitting the queries to the plurality of web sites.

43. A profile agent for a computer system comprising:
an activity monitor to monitor computer usage of a computer user during a usage session, to record information including hypertext links selected by the user during the monitored session, and to analyze the recorded hypertext links to determine a user intent for the session; and

a query engine to generate a search engine query based on the determined intent.

44. The agent of claim 43, wherein the activity monitor parses hypertext links selected by the user into words and determines the user intent based on the parsed words.

45. The agent of claim 43, wherein the activity monitor determines the user's intent based on the content of the hypertext links using heuristics.

46. The agent of claim 43 wherein the activity monitor comprises keyword tables and analyzes the hypertext links by comparing the hypertext links to the keyword tables to identify words that may be indicative of the user intent.

47. The agent of claim 43, wherein the activity monitor comprises stored category profiles and determines a shift in the user intent by comparing recorded information to the stored category profiles.

48. The agent of claim 43, wherein the query engine transmits the search engine query to a search engine, the agent further comprising a results filter to receive a search result document from the queried search engine, the search result document comprising a plurality of search result entries, the results filter to filter the search result entries based on the determined intent, and select a subset of the search result entries.

49. The agent of claim 43, wherein the query engine constructs queries to perform searches using search engines on a plurality of web sites based on the user's intent, and transmits the queries to the plurality of web sites.

50. The agent of claim 49, further comprising a results filter to receive search result documents from the web sites, the search result documents comprising a plurality of search result entries, to filter the search result entries based on the determined intent, and to select a subset of the search result entries.

51. A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a network connection;

an activity monitor to monitor computer usage of a computer user during an Internet session, to record information including hypertext links selected by the user during the monitored session, and to analyze the recorded hypertext links to determine a user intent for the session; and

a query engine to generate search engine queries to perform searches using search engines on a plurality of Internet web sites based on the user's intent, and to transmit the queries to the plurality of web sites

52. The system of claim 51, wherein the activity monitor parses hypertext links selected by the user into words and determines the user intent based on the parsed words.

53. The system of claim 51, wherein the activity monitor comprises keyword tables and analyzes the hypertext links by comparing the hypertext links to the keyword tables to identify words that may be indicative of the user intent.

54. The system of claim 51, wherein the activity monitor records at least one of time spent at a network site, network pages bookmarked by the user, frequency that particular network pages are visited, and the content of visited network pages, and the activity monitor analyzes the recorded information and the hypertext links to determine a user intent for the session.

55. The system of claim 51, further comprising a results filter to receive a search result document from queried search engines, the search result document comprising a plurality of search result entries, the results filter to filter the search result entries based on the determined intent, and select a subset of the search result entries.

56. A method comprising:
transmitting a search query to a site over a network;
receiving a search result document from the site, the search result document comprising a plurality of search result entries;
accessing pages associated with at least some of the search result entries;

filtering the search result entries by comparing information from the accessed pages to the query, and

selecting a subset of the search result entries based on the comparison.

57. The method of claim 56, wherein at least some of the search result entries comprise a hypertext link to pages associated with the respective search result entry, the method further comprising parsing hypertext links into constituent elements, and comparing the hypertext link constituent elements to elements of the search query.

58. The method of Claim 57, wherein selecting a subset of the search result entries comprises selecting using the comparison of information from accessed pages and the comparison of hypertext link constituent elements.

59. The method of claim 58, wherein at least some of the search result entries include a description of an associated document, the method further comprising parsing at least a portion of the descriptions into constituent elements, and comparing the description constituent elements to elements of the search query and wherein selecting a subset comprises selecting a subset using the description constituent elements comparison.

60. The method of claim 59, further comprising generating a summary document comprised of the selected subset of the search result entries, and displaying the summary document.

61. The method of claim 56, wherein the network comprises the Internet, and the site comprises a search engine at a remote World Wide Web site.

62. The method of claim 56, wherein the network comprises the Internet, the method further comprising transmitting the search query to a plurality of search engines

at remote World Wide Web sites and receiving a plurality of search result documents from the search engines, each search result document comprising a plurality of search result entries.

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63. A machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing instructions which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

- transmitting a search query to a site over a network;
- receiving a search result document from the site, the search result document comprising a plurality of search result entries;
- accessing pages associated with at least some of the search result entries;
- filtering the search result entries by comparing information from the accessed pages to the query; and
- selecting a subset of the search result entries based on the comparison.

64. The medium of claim 63, wherein at least some of the search result entries comprise a hypertext link to pages associated with the respective search results entry, the medium further comprising instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising parsing hypertext links into constituent elements, and comparing the hypertext link constituent elements to elements of the search query.

65. The medium of Claim 64, wherein the instructions for selecting a subset of the search result entries comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising selecting using the

comparison of information from accessed pages and the comparison of hypertext link constituent elements.

66. The medium of claim 63, wherein at least some of the search result entries include a description of an associated document, the medium further comprising instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising parsing at least a portion of the descriptions into constituent elements, and comparing the description constituent elements to elements of the search query and wherein the instructions for selecting a subset comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising selecting a subset using the description constituent elements comparison.

67. An apparatus comprising:

a query engine to transmit a search query to a site over a network; and

a results filter to receive a search result document from the site, the search result document comprising a plurality of search result entries, the results filter further to access pages associated with at least some of the search result entries, to filter the search result entries by comparing information from the accessed pages to the query, and to select a subset of the search result entries based on the comparison.

68. The system of claim 67, wherein at least some of the search result entries comprise a hypertext link to pages associated with the respective search result entry, and wherein the results filter parses hypertext links into constituent elements and compares the hypertext link constituent elements to elements of the search query.

69. The system of claim 67, wherein at least some of the search result entries include a description of an associated document, the results filter further to parse at least

a portion of the descriptions into constituent elements, and compare the description constituent elements to elements of the search query.

70. A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a network connection;

c1 a query engine to transmit using the network connection search queries to search engines at Internet sites; and

a results filter to receive search result documents over the network connection from the search engines, the search result documents comprising a plurality of search result entries, the results filter further to access pages associated with at least some of the search result entries, to filter the search result entries by comparing information from the accessed pages to the query, and to select a subset of the search result entries based on the comparison.

71. The system of claim 70, wherein at least some of the search result entries comprise a hypertext link to pages associated with the respective search result entry, and wherein the results filter parses hypertext links into constituent elements and compares the hypertext link constituent elements to elements of the search query.

72. The system of claim 70, wherein at least some of the search result entries include a description of an associated document, the results filter further to parse at least a portion of the descriptions into constituent elements, and compare the description constituent elements to elements of the search query.
